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Van Woerkom: Michigan Awarded Federal Funds to Fight Emerald Ash Borer

LANSING – Senator Gerald Van Woerkom, Chairman of the Senate Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism Committee, today commended the federal government for awarding Michigan funding to eradicate the Emerald Ash Borer.

“The resolutions urging the federal government to help Michigan fight the devastating affects of the Emerald Ash Borer were passed by the Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism committee,” Van Woerkom said. “I am pleased that our requests to fight the insect, which killed five million of our ash trees last year, have been heard and fulfilled.”

The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive Asian insect which struck six Southeast Michigan counties last year. Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties are currently under quarantine by the Department of Agriculture.

The federal government has awarded funding of \$14.6 million to Michigan and Ohio to fight the Emerald Ash Borer. The funds will be used to prevent the spread of the insect, enforce the quarantine of ash tree products, conduct research on the insect's biology to identify controls and treatments, educate the community on the insect and facilitate tree restoration when possible.

For more information on the Emerald Ash Borer, please contact Senator Van Woerkom's Office by calling (866) 305-1635.

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